

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to a Final Office Action mailed December 19, 2007. Prior to this response, claims 1-42 were pending. After amending claims 1, 9, 20, 31-32, and 35, claims 1-42 remain pending.

In Section 5 of the Office Action claims 1-2, 12-13, 18-22, 29, and 38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as anticipated by DeHority (US 5,129,639). Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to include the subject matter of determining the imaging job filing type, and determining the imaging job characteristics in response to determining the file type. These limitations are discussed in the specification at page 13, line 8 through page 15, line 15.

DeHority discloses a process that uses paper supplies from a multi-paper supply system, where each supply corresponds to paper size, weight, color, and type. DeHority's process also uses stapling, folding, stacking, and duplexing options (col. 2, ln. 44-64). Each document to be processed includes a header where the paper, folding, stacking, stapling, and duplexing instructions are embedded. The process employs a best match strategy if the printer is unable to exactly comply with the header instructions (col. 3, ln. 5-50).

DeHority does not analyze the print job to determine file type. DeHority does not determine the print job characteristics in response to determining file type. Rather, in DeHority's system the print characteristics are supplied in the header of the print job. Therefore, DeHority does not disclose every limitation of claims 1 and 20, as

amended. Because DeHority does not explicitly disclose all the limitations of claims 1 and 20, he cannot anticipate those claims. Claims 2, 12-13, and 18-19, dependent from claim 1, and claims 21-22, 29, and 38, dependent from claim 20, enjoy the same this actions from the cited prior art reference, and the Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be removed.

In Section 7 of the Office Action, claims 3-6, 16-17, 22, 26, 32-33, 36, and 41-42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable with respect to DeHority in view of Wadley (US 2002/0181014). The Office Action acknowledges that DeHority fails to disclose a plurality of network-connected devices, or the monitoring of printer resources, but that Wadley discloses these features, and it would have been obvious to include the features of Wadley with DeHority's process as a way for an organization to monitor the content of documents being printed on organization printer resources. This rejection is traversed as follows.

Wadley discloses a system where monitoring software installed on a printer is used to determine whether the data streams associated with documents are of interest to the organization [0009]. As an example, ink and the print media can be determined.

An invention is unpatentable if the differences between it and the prior art would have been obvious at the time of the invention. As stated in MPEP § 2143, the *KSR International Co. v Teleflex Inc.* decision

(82 USPQ2d 1385, 1395-1397, 2007) suggests 7 exemplary rationales to support a conclusion of obviousness, which include:

A) Combining prior art elements according to known methods to yield predictable results;

B) Simple substitution of one known element for another to obtain predictable results;

C) Use of known technique to improve similar devices (methods, or products) in the same way;

D) Applying a known technique to a known device (method, or product) ready for improvement to yield predictable results;

E) "Obvious to try" – choosing from a finite number of identified, predictable solutions, with a reasonable expectation of success;

F) Known work in one field of endeavor may prompt variations of it for use in either the same field or a different one based on design incentives or other market forces if the variations are predictable to one of ordinary skill in the art;

G) Some teaching, suggestion, or motivation in prior art would have lead one of ordinary skill to modify the prior art reference or the combine prior art references teachings to arrive at the claimed invention.

The Office Action states that modifications to DeHority would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in light of Wadley. This rejection appears to be most closely grounded in the G) rationale - Some teaching, suggestion, or motivation in prior art would have lead one of ordinary skill to modify the prior art reference or the combine prior art references teachings to arrive at the claimed invention.

With respect to this rationale, MPEP 2143 (G) states that the rejection must articulate the following criteria to resolve the *Graham* factual analysis:

(1) a finding that there was some teaching, suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or combine reference teachings;

(2) a finding that there was a reasonable expectation of success; and

(3) whatever additional findings based on the *Graham* factual inquiries may be necessary, in view of the facts of the case under consideration, to explain a conclusion of obviousness.

With respect to the above-referenced first factual analysis criteria, the Wadley reference has been combined with DeHority based upon the assumption that DeHority discloses all the limitations recited in Applicant's claims 1 and 20. However, DeHority does not disclose determining imaging job characteristics in response to determining the imaging job file type. As noted above, DeHority's system accepts a document with a header that includes various finishing options. In other words, imaging job characteristics are delivered along with the job.

With respect to claim 9, the Office Action states that Wadley discloses an imaging job file type in paragraph [0039]. However, this analysis is inaccurate. In [0039] Wadley states that the "structure" of a document may be analyzed for matching a document to profile characteristics [0041]. However, Wadley's structure (i.e., the content of a document) is not the same as a file type. As noted in the Applicant's

specification, Word and pdf document formats are examples of file types (specification - page 8, lines 9-13). Therefore, even if elements from Wadley are combined with DeHority, that combination does not explicitly disclose every limitation of claims 1 and 20. Claims 3-6, 9-11, 16-17, dependent from claim 1, and claims 22, 26, 32-33, 36, and 41-42, dependent from claim 20, enjoy the same advantages.

The Office Action states that it would have been obvious to apply the features of Wadley to DeHority as a way for an organization to monitor the content of documents being printed on organization printer resources. However, the motivation to monitor resources does not suggest determining an imaging job's characteristics in response to determining the file type. This kind of *prima facie* analysis is especially critical in the present circumstances since the rejection is predicated on limitations that are not explicitly disclosed in the prior art references. The claimed invention can only be obvious if an artisan makes substantial modifications to the DeHority reference. However, there is nothing in the Wadley reference that suggests such a modification.

Neither does the obviousness rejection provide evidence that such a modification would have been obvious to one with skill in the art based upon what was well known at the time of the invention. "(A)nalysis [of whether the subject matter of a claim would have been obvious] need not seek out precise teachings directed to the specific subject matter of the challenged claim, for a court can take account of the inferences and creative steps that a person of ordinary skill in the art would employ." *KSR Int'l Co. v. Teleflex, Inc.*, 127 S. Ct. 1727, 1740-41, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (2007). However, if the *prima facie* rejection is supported by what

was known by a person of ordinary skill in the art then additional evidence should have been provided. Notable, when the source or motivation is not from the prior art references, "the evidence" of motive will likely consist of an explanation or a well-known principle or problem-solving strategy to be applied". *DyStar*, 464 F.3d at 1366, 80 USPQ2d at 1649. The Office Action does not supply evidence that it was well known at the time of the invention to determine imaging job characteristics after first determining the imaging job file type.

With respect to the second analysis criteria needed to support the G) obviousness rationale, even if an expert were given the Wadley and DeHority references as a foundation, no evidence has been provided to show that there is a reasonable expectation of success in the claimed invention. That is, there can be no reasonable expectation of success if the references, and what was known by artisan at the time of the invention, do not teach all the limitations of the claimed invention.

In summary, the Applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* case of obvious has not been supported since the combination of Wadley and DeHority does not explicitly disclose every limitation of claims 1 and 20. Neither has a case been supported that DeHority can be modified to supply the missing limitations in view of what was well known by a person of skill at the time of the invention. Therefore, the Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 3-6, 9-11, 16-17, 22, 26, 32-33, 36, and 41-42 be removed.

In Section 8 of the Office Action, claims 7 and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable with respect to DeHority and Wadley, and further in view of Wiechers (US 2002/0075509). The Office Action acknowledges that DeHority and Wadley fail to disclose image resolution capabilities, but that Wiechers discloses this feature, and that it would have been obvious to include the features of Wiechers with the processes of DeHority and Wadley to determine time and cost parameters. This rejection is traversed as follows.

Even if Wiechers' imaging resolution capabilities are combined with Wadley and DeHority, the combination still fails to explicitly describe a process that determines imaging job characteristics in response to first determining the imaging job file type. Further, the motivation of satisfying time and cost parameters does not suggest modifications to DeHority that would make these claim limitations obvious, based on either the Wadley/Wiechers references, or what was well known at the time. Since the combination of references neither explicitly discloses all the claim limitations, nor suggests modification to DeHority that would make all the limitations obvious, the Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 7 and 30 be withdrawn.

In Section 9 of the Office Action, claims 8 and 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable with respect to DeHority and Wadley, and further in view of Neuhard (US 6,052,198). The Office Action acknowledges that DeHority and Wadley fail to disclose determining available print media information. The Office Action states that Neuhard discloses these features, and it would have been obvious to

include the features of Neuhard with DeHority and Wadley to make a more efficient system. This rejection is traversed as follows.

Even if Neuhard's accessing of print media information is combined with Wadley and DeHority, the combination still fails to explicitly describe a process that determines imaging job characteristics in response to first determining the imaging job file type. Further, the motivation of improving efficiency does not suggest modifications to DeHority that would make these claim limitations obvious, based on either the Wadley/Neuhard references, or what was well known at the time. Since the combination of references neither explicitly discloses all the claim limitations, nor suggests modification to DeHority that would make all the limitations obvious, the Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 8 and 25 be withdrawn.

In Section 10 of the Office Action, claims 14-15 and 39-40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable with respect to DeHority in view of Wiechers. The Office Action acknowledges that DeHority fails to disclose matching system capabilities to job characteristics, but that Wiechers discloses this feature, and that it would have been obvious to include the features of Wiechers with DeHority to satisfy user time and cost parameters. This rejection is traversed as follows.

Even if Wiechers' system of matching network printer capabilities to job characteristics is combined with DeHority, the combination still fails to explicitly describe a process that determines imaging job characteristics in response to first determining the imaging job file type. Further, the motivation of satisfying time and cost

parameters does not suggest modifications to DeHority that would make these claim limitations obvious, based on either the Wiechers reference, or what was well known at the time. Since the combination of references neither explicitly discloses all the claim limitations, nor suggests modification to DeHority that would make all the limitations obvious, the Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 14-15 and 39-40 be withdrawn.

In Section 11 of the Office Action, claim 24 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable with respect to DeHority in view of Walker et al. ("Walker"; US 6,561,643). The Office Action acknowledges that DeHority fails to disclose a reader interface, but that Walker discloses this feature, and it would have been obvious to include the features of Walker with DeHority to automatically adjust printing for optimal images based upon sensing the media entering the printer. This rejection is traversed as follows.

If Walker's reader interface is combined with DeHority, the combination still fails to explicitly describe a process that determines imaging job characteristics in response to first determining the imaging job file type. Further, the motivation of automatically making adjustments in response to the sensed media does not suggest modifications to DeHority that would make these claim limitations obvious, based on either the Walker reference, or what was well known at the time. Since the combination of references neither explicitly discloses all the claim limitations, nor suggests modification to DeHority that would make all the limitations obvious, the Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 24 be withdrawn.

In Section 12 of the Office Action, claims 27, 31, and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable with respect to DeHority and Wadley, in view of Ferlitsch (US 6,943,905). The Office Action acknowledges that DeHority and Wadley fail to disclose a client with a print driver, but that Ferlitsch discloses this feature, and it would have been obvious to include the features of Ferlitsch with DeHority and Wadley to access information concerning imaging device status. This rejection is traversed as follows.

If Ferlitsch's client driver is combined with DeHority and Wadley, the combination still fails to explicitly describe a process that determines imaging job characteristics in response to first determining the imaging job file type. Further, the motivation of accessing imaging device status does not suggest modifications to DeHority that would make these claim limitations obvious, based on either the Wadley and Ferlitsch references, or what was well known at the time. Since the combination of references neither explicitly discloses all the claim limitations, nor suggests modification to DeHority that would make all the limitations obvious, the Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 27, 31, and 34 be withdrawn.

In Section 13 of the Office Action, claims 28 and 35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable with respect to DeHority and Wadley, in view of Hayward et al. ("Hayward"; US 7,031,004). The Office Action acknowledges that DeHority and Wadley fail to disclose a client with a web page interface, but that Hayward discloses this feature, and it would have been obvious to include the features of Hayward with

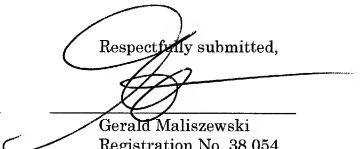
DeHority and Wadley for sending available print media information. This rejection is traversed as follows.

If Hayward's web interface is combined with DeHority and Wadley, the combination still fails to explicitly describe a process that determines imaging job characteristics in response to first determining the imaging job file type. Further, the motivation of sending print media information does not suggest modifications to DeHority that would make these claim limitations obvious, based on either the Wadley and Hayward references, or what was well known at the time. Since the combination of references neither explicitly discloses all the claim limitations, nor suggests modification to DeHority that would make all the limitations obvious, the Applicant requests that the rejection of claims 28 and 35 be withdrawn.

It is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Date: 1/23/2008

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald Maliszewski
Registration No. 38,054

Customer Number 55,286
P.O. Box 270829
San Diego, CA 92198-2829
Telephone: (858) 451-9950
Facsimile: (858) 451-9869
gerry@ipatentit.net